

28 JUL 1981

July 1981
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BARC NEWS



**Monthly Newsletter of the
Ballarat Amateur Radio Group**

81/07 02

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group

VK3BML

P.O. BOX 216E
BALLARAT EAST, VICTORIA, 3350

COMMITTEE 1981/82

POSITION	NAME	CALLSIGN	TEL(H)	TEL(W)
PRESIDENT	DICK ANTOSIEWICZ	VK3VSE/XCV	323273	321818
VICE PRESIDENT	ERNIE TURNER	VK3DET	326964	370375
SECRETARY	HENRY MORITZ	VK3VMO	327569	301800
ASS. SECRETARY	DICK FORRESTER	VK3VU	357663	391005
TREASURER	KEITH GRADY	VK3NWN	327016	370271
TECH OFFICER	PHIL SEDDON	VK3AQM	315220	313166
QSL/AWD MGR	MAURIE BATT	VK3-13062	422245	*****
PUBLICITY	GEORGE LANCE	VK3DS	323226	*****
EDUCATION	JIM HUMPHREYS	VK3ANH	321613	321719
NEWSLETTER	CLEM JARVIS	VK3YDI	314179	321951
COMMITTEE	BILL JOHNSON	VK3VYP	*****	SKIPTON 22
COMMITTEE	IAN COLLIER	VK3BQC	358969	358067
COMMITTEE	GEORGE FOWLER	VK3VEI	326863	391954
COMMITTEE	HANK HILVERTS	VK3NIA	393332	*****

THE BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP MEETS ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7.30pm. THE MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE BALLARAT EDUCATION CENTRE IN HOPETOUN ST BALLARAT 3350.

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST-PUBLICATION No. VBH3397

MEETING IS ON
JULY 31ST

8/10703

The Editor,
Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Newsletter,
Dear Sir,

It was with interest that I went along to the first night of the Novice Course for 1981, conducted by a small band of dedicated people at Ballarat North Technical School. I was interested to see who would be there, to see how many new faces there would be. Oh, there were some new faces alright, a whole dozen of them; all would be amateurs; 9 guys and 2 gals plus a late comer. And there they were, the lecturers or at least 3 of them. The same old faces, you all know them. I think most of us must have studied under them at one stage or another. That same bunch of very dedicated amateurs who time and time again have given their utmost to teach a bunch of no-body's something about radio, and believe it or not, they can still smile. Could it be their smile is for knowing that with their help another 3, 4 or 5 people are going to join the ranks.

This club has a very high pass rate with their novice course and it is due to their (the Instructors) enthusiasm and patience. Have a look around you and count the number of licensed amateurs you know and then add up how many have come up through the club course. The number is very impressive indeed.

I salute you gentlemen for a job well done over the last few years and wish you success for the present course as well as any future ones. To the students, I say go to it. You have the best teachers and now the ball is in your court. Only you can pass the exam and make it happen.

Good luck and 73's from a
satisfied customer;

Hank VK3NIA

WESTERN ZONE CONVENTION 1981

The 1980 Western Zone convention will be held at Hamilton from the 31st October to 1st November. Further details will be published in this newsletter when they come available.

Meeting was opened at 735 P.M., with a relatively small turnout; approx. 25 members attended.

APOLOGIES received from Bob BNC, Alan NWV, Clarrie VEZ, George PDA, Kevin and also Brian Stares.

MINUTES of the last meeting had been circulated and were taken as correct (Bill VYP/Hank NIA)

BUS. ARISING from these minutes: NONE

CORRESPONDENCE(out): Letter of thanks to Doug McLeod for his turn as guest lecturer last meeting, a ripper performance!
(in): WIA request for participation in W/Zone hookup
WIA applic. f. W/zone membership
WIA notification of repr. comm. meeting (too late)
Geelong ARC newsletter; Illawarra ARC newsletter
PMG note regarding incr. in mail charges.
Several applic. for DXWA (passed on to Maurie)

TREASURERS REPORT:

A detailed report has been tabled and published in the most recent newsletter, essence of it being that the club's finances remained good, credit balance being \$ 502.95 after all expenses, with annual subs. still outstanding.

AWARDS/QSL:

Maurie reports that so far 72 Begonia awards have been issued, also 46 DX-widows awards, thus recovering the outlay for the production. Over the past year, he had received & distributed 3540 QSLs, sent 7953 and had 169 QSL enquiries - quite a busy boy, our Maurie! He also presented a cheque of \$100.- to the club as payment received for the awards, - good on yer!

PUBLICITY:

The committee had earlier discussed the matter of the erstwhile Ballarat:USA contest awards and, due to very scant response, it had been decided to abandon the production of the planned certificate due to high costs (for such numbers) Any paid monies were to be refunded with suitable letters of explanation. (also to AR AND ARA mag.) Henry VMO was to investigate the possibility of a substitute hand-lettered certificate

EDUCATION:

Jim ANH will begin Novice classes at North Tech. on July 14th and a good response was hoped for. The full call boys will be on their own, I'm afraid. - Pity.

8/07 05

A.G.M. 26/6/1981

TECHNICAL REPORT: Phil AQM reported that the repeater still seems to suffer from teething troubles and is off the air just now. The helical filters (or some such) need fine adjustment and will be attended to soon. The beacon is still working, it seems, and there is a possibility that the beacon will find a home on the Telecom tower, all going well. Negotiations are in progress at this stage.

NEWSLETTER: There was some hold-up last month, but in this issue a full financial report was included. Copies were handed out at the meeting (due to mail strike) and the perennial plea for more articles etc was aired again.

THE OFFICIAL MEETING CONCLUDED AT 8.30 P.M. and Dick VU then declared all positions of office bearers as vacant and we got down to the real nerve-straining politicking to see who was to be the next president etc for the coming year. Some hefty minutes of nominating and/or declining and/or accepting took place and, as of now, the incoming crop of office bearers is as follows:

PRESIDENT	: Dick Antosiewicz	VSE/XCV
VICE PRES.	: Ernie Turner	DET
SECRETARY	: Henry Moritz	VMO
ASS. Secretary:	DICK FORRESTER	VU
TREASURER	: Keith Grady	NWN
NEWSLETTER ED.:	Clem Jarvis	NGL/YDI
QSL/AWARDS	Maurie Batt	VK3-13062
PUBLICITY	: George Lance	DS
Tech. OFFICER ;	Phil Seddon	AQM
COMMITTEE	: George Fowler	VEI
" "	: Bill Johnson	VYP
" "	: Ian Collier	BQC
" "	: Hank Hilverts	NIA

May they reign in peace - with some help from the rest

8/07 06

9 VOLT TRANSISTOR BATTERY CLIPS:

- Battery clips for the common 9 volt transistor radio battery can be obtained by carefully peeling away the metal case on used 9 volt battery's and saving the battery top containing the male and female connectors. Solder a wire to each connector and you now have a new clip.

A CHEAP WIRE SOURCE

A handy source of solid conductor wire (insulated) is the double insulated wire sold for house wiring. This wire is 15 SWG and insulated with black and red insulation. It is ideal for power supplies and with careful bending and layout it can make a very good job.

INSULATION FOR HOME BREW TRANSFORMERS

- For insulation between layers of windings on the rewound transformer, try using "oven bags" that are used for roasting. They are thin (therefore not taking up too much room) and can withstand high temperatures.

INSULATION FOR TORROIDS

This item can be found at your local plumbing retailer in the form of "Teflon Tape". It is also very handy for fixing leaking pipe fittings.

FINISHING ALUMINIUM FRONT PANELS

- After drilling all holes etc. polish out all scratches and then dip it in a good strong brew of caustic soda. This leaves a residue (Aluminium Oxide I think. ed) on the surface of the panel. It then won't show fingerprints etc. The caustic soda is available from the supermarket in flake form.

WARNING

Caustic soda is very corrosive so it must be handled with great care. Mix it only in plastic containers and be careful not to inhale any of the vapours. We want to see you alive and well at the next meeting.

73's and happy home brewing

DICK VK3VSE/XCV

81/07 08

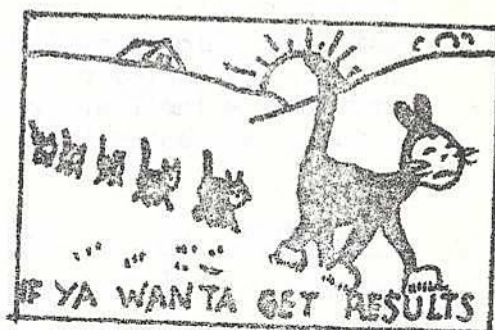
8/107 09

Reprinted below are some antenna and transmission line equations which are useful for quickly calculating lengths for HF and VHF antennae and feedlines. They were extracted from an amateur publication written by W3FQJ. They are reprinted in their original form so those who wish to work in metric can do their own conversions.

DIMENSION	MATERIAL	FEET	INCHES
$\frac{1}{2}$ wave	Free space	$492/f$ MHZ	$11808/f$ MHZ
$\frac{1}{4}$ wave	Free space	$246/f$ MHZ	$5904/f$ MHZ
$\frac{1}{2}$ wave	Dipole	$468/f$ MHZ	$5616/f$ MHZ
$\frac{1}{4}$ wave	Vertical regular	$234/f$ MHz	$2808/f$ MHZ
$\frac{1}{4}$ wave	Vert (large dia.)	$251/f$ MHZ	$2770/f$ MHZ
$\frac{1}{4}$ wave	Vert (small dia.)	$242/f$ MHZ	$2904/f$ MHZ
$\frac{1}{2}$ wave	Co-axial line (.66)	$324.7/f$ MHz	$3896/f$ MHZ
$\frac{1}{2}$ wave	Co-axial line (.81)	$398.5/f$ MHZ	$4782/f$ MHZ
$\frac{1}{2}$ wave	300 ohm ribbon	$403.4/f$ MHZ	$4838/f$ MHZ
	Beam reflector	$492/f$ MHZ	$5904/f$ MHZ
	Beam director (1)	$450/f$ MHZ	$5400/f$ MHZ
	Beam director (2)	$440/f$ MHZ	$5280/f$ MHZ
	VHF Reflector	_____	$5820/f$ MHZ
	VHF Director (1)	_____	$5360/f$ MHZ
	VHF Director (2)	_____	$5200/f$ MHZ
	Quad driven	$984/f$ MHZ	_____
	Quad Reflector	$1050/f$ MHZ	_____
	Inv Dipole (75 deg)	$486/f$ MHZ	$5832/f$ MHZ
	Inv Dipole (90 deg)	$476/f$ MHZ	$5712/f$ MHZ
	Inv Dipole (105 deg)	$470/f$ MHZ	$5640/f$ MHZ
	Inv Dipole (120 deg up)	$468/f$ MHZ	$5616/f$ MHZ
$3/4$ wave	Inverted Vee	$710/f$ MHZ	_____
$5/4$ wave	Inverted Vee	$1200/f$ MHZ	_____
$7/4$ wave	Inverted Vee	$1680/f$ MHZ	_____
$9/4$ wave	Inverted Vee	$2170/f$ MHZ	_____

Good luck with your new antenna,

73's DICK VK3VU



80 meters.

LU3JCE. CX7BY. VK9NS. FK8DH. PY4XYC. JA. ZL. W's.

40 meters.

From 03.30z. LU3JCR. CE3PK. CP3GES/5. GW3AX. PY3SOB.
G3A00. XE2MX. FK8CR. OA4AWD. DK7IJ. EA9EO. EA7AYD. 7X4MD.
VE7SZ. VR6TC. AH6CH/KH2. 5T5CJ. ZF2DT. VK9NS. ZL3PA/C.
ZP5PX. EL7A. VK4ANS/LH. CX3BBH. EAIUU.
From 10.00z. KX6ZZ. W7TJ. VE7ZG. WH8AAJ. KG4WM.
TI5DFQ. H44DX. TI9VVR.

00

Members thinking of buying equipment from Sydney dealers and do not want to get RIPPED OFF see me and I will tell you where not to buy, do not buy from dealers that have only a Box Number.

Maurie Batt.

Looking through the Western District Notes in Amateur Radio, May 1937 "Stan VK3SE seems to be the only Ballarat ham active at present".

(SL cards in two colours were 27/6 per 1000. in one colour 17/6 per 1000. Membership of the W.I.A. was 20/- Full Member (City) Full Member (Country) 14/6.

Of the advertiser's in this issue, only one still around is R.H. Cunningham, VK3ML.

From the Editorial. The policy was chiefly concerned with the extension of the 7MC band to 7.5 MC. It was to this end that amateurs throughout the world were striving.

In New Zealand the authorities were approached and they refused to sanction an increase in the 7 MC band. (New Zealand were granted an increase in the 7 MC band in 1980, after 43 years, how long for VK).

The "perfect" Station.

General requirements. - Station to work on 3.5, 7, 14, 28 MC.

Rapid change from band to band. Minimum of coil change, Break-In operation. The whole to be neat in appearance, so as to fit in normal size room.

DX Worked.

FA8. YR5. OZ. OE. MX. SU. F. D. G. SP. VP2. PY. LU. J. HPI. HKI. (All AM in those days and all gear was homebrew.)

Maurie Batt.

Outwards (SL Bureau).

Regret to say that our outwards (SL manager suffered a stroke recently and is unable to carry on. Not known who is taking the job on at this moment. I suggest that members send their outwards QSL cards to the W.I.A. rooms:-

412 Brunswick Street.

Fitzroy. 3065.

81/07 11



Begonia Award A/C:

Income.

1978-1979.

Sale of Awards 99.75
Bank Intrest 3.37
Total \$102.62

Expenditure.

Postage 29.60
Cr. Bal June 1980 73.02
Total \$102.62

Begonia A/C June 1980 - June 1981.

Income

Cr. Balance June 1980 73.02
Sale of Awards 44.00
Bank Intrest 3.25
Total \$120.27

Expenditure.

Postage and Publicity 6.00
Donation to Club. 100.00
Cr Bal June 1981 14.27
Total \$120.27

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DX Widows Award A/c 1981.

Income.

Sale of Awards 106.50
Bank Interest .10
Total \$106.60

Expenditure.

Postage and Publicity 13.10
Donation to Club. 93.00
Cr. Bal June 1981 .50
Total \$106.60

Maurie Batt.

Awards Manager.

The above is as at June 27th 1981. Checked and found correct by the club Treasurer Keith Grady. VK3NWN.

Feed back from the publicity in 73 Magazine (USA) for The DX Widows Award has been very good, there was a very good writeup in the June issue and since then have received 40 applications from the U.S.A. but these are now slowing down. I do expect another rush when it appears in "A.R.A." and the ZL "Break-In" magazine. I would hope that members of the club will give this award some publicity when contacting other stations both in VK and overseas. Every dollar we make with this award helps to fill the kitty and is to the benefit of the club. I would hate to see this fizzle out like the "Begonia Award" after all the efforts that have been put into it to make a go of it. Members that do not have the DX Widows Award as yet may obtain it at the club meetings. So go to it chaps and thankyou.

Maurie Batt.

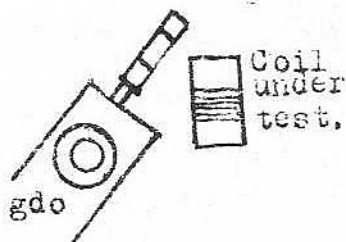
81/07 12

Inflation.
 Did you know that in 1947 the cover price of "AR" was 6d. 8/107 13
 In 1949 it was 9d, 1955 1/-, 1958 1/6, 1960 2/-, 1967 25z.
 1968 30z and the cover cost appeared on the 1968 Sept issue
 for the last time.
 That the 6146 valve came on to the market in 1955 and is still
 used in many of the present day transceivers.
For Sale.

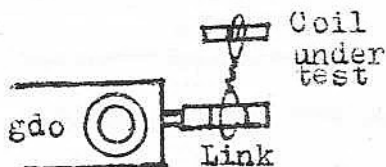
New Kenwood TS-520SE. Never fired up and used less than
 20 hours for listening, complete with AT200 and SP-520. \$775.00.
 Maurie Batt. 422245.

Applications of the Grid Dip Oscillator.
 The grid dipper is a device capable of serving as five basic
 instruments.

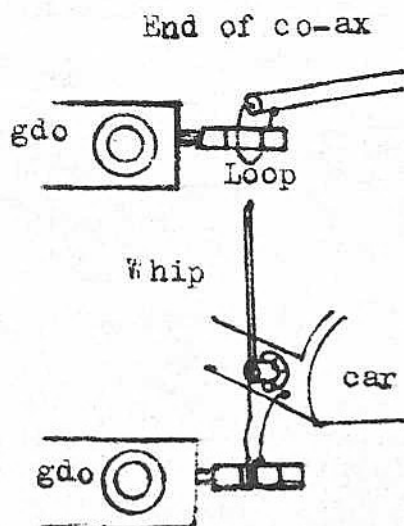
1. A calibrated r.f. oscillator equipped with a meter indicat-
 ing the oscillator activity. (G.D.O.)
2. Oscillating Detector.
 Equivalent to a simple regenerative receiver for detecting
 r.f. signals by the heterodyne method using head-phones.
3. Non-oscillating Detector.
 For the detection of r.f. signals using the built-in meter
 to measure relative signal strengths.
4. Signal Generator.
 To generate strong r.f. signals of known frequency.
5. Absorption Wavemeter.



Method of checking the resonant
 frequency of a coil, place coil
 of GDO as close as possible to
 coil being checked.



Method of checking a very small
 coil in built up equipment by
 means of a coupling link.

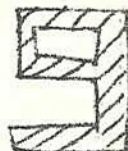


How the GDO is used to check the
 resonant frequency of a section
 of co-axial cable transmission
 line. open circuited one end and
 short circuited the other.

Method of checking the resonant
 frequency of a mobile antenna.
 The feeder is removed from inside
 base insulator and a low-inductance
 link coil substituted across the base.

81/07 14

8/07 15



DX NOTES DX NOTES DX NOTES DX NOTES DX NOTES DX NOTES DX

The DX notes for this month are fairly scarce. i.e. no input = no output. If you have any news that you think may be of interest to other members of the club then please let me know via P.O. Box 600 Ballarat or via phone, 357663 A/H. The two subjects I would like to talk about this month are (a) QSL Buro operations and (b) Beacons. Firstly I would like to mention to all operators to try and keep the beacon segment clear (28.2 - 28.3 MHz.). The beacons at the best of times are relatively weak due to the fact that they only run low power and can be rendered useless by strong local signals. A list of operational beacons is provided in the 1979 callbook and I believe the new 1981 callbook will have an updated list. A beacon that is not listed in the callbook but one that is very interesting is the one located in Natal, South Africa operating on 28.202 MHz. It gives output power, location, QSL information, and a list of other operating frequencies. The ident is about 10wpm CW and it operates on 10Mx, 6Mx and 2 Mx, using the callsign ZS5VHF. It is very useful to those people interested in 10 Mx operation into Africa. So, once again, please try to keep that portion of the band clear.

The second subject of this month concerns the QSL Buro operations in VK land. It is a good time to remind everybody of the rules associated with the Buro. They are as follows:

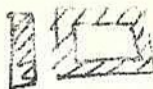
(a) The cards you wish to send must be of a standard size for VK. If they fit inside the standard Coles/Woolies airmail envelope then they will just about be the correct size. Remember, if your cards are too small then they are liable to get lost. If you are unsure of the size then ask before ordering.

(b) There must be no more than 5 (five) words of greeting written on the card. If there are any more than this then the postal people will refuse permission to use the cheap postal rate.

(c) The callsign of the destination station must be written in the top right hand corner of the rear of the card. This is because all the cards are sorted from the back. If the call is not written on the card then the club QSL manager will refuse to accept them.

(d) If you wish to use the club QSL service then you must be a member of the W.I.A. and a member of the club. If you are not a member of the W.I.A. then a charge of 5¢ per card applies which must be paid when you lodge the cards.

81/07 16

DX NOTES (Cont)

Remember, the Australian QSL service is run entirely by volunteers who give an enormous amount of time, so by following these simple rules you can make their workload a little lighter.

The following is a selection of stations worked/heard from this QTH together with some QSL information. The stations marked with an asterisk were contacted in the Australian novice bands.

20 Metres

W, 3A, 9H, S83, TG4, 4C5, 6WS, EL2, YJ8, VK9N, VK0, XE1, A35, P29, 9G, VP9, VP2V, 5V, UD6, VS5, XT, XZ, KH4, KH2, KH6, HH0N (Navassa Is)

15 Metres

w. YJ8, YC1+, 9M2+, 8Q7, TI+, 9U, 9X+, EP2, A35+, A4X+, UO5, UF6, ZL+,

10 Metres

9X, ZS6, 4X4, YU, Y27, W, VP2V, J3, VK9YC, ZE, 9G, XT, UA6, G, GM, UB5, 9U.

All the 10 metre QSO's were conducted in the novice bands.

QSL INFORMATION

9U5JM via WA4VDE
9X5MH via WA4VDE
9H1EU via I3ZYV
YJ8DX via VK2AHJ
VK0AJ via VK3AWY
A35RF via VK3VU
A35PF via K9KB

AP5HQ via N0RR
CE0AC via CE3YY
K6LPL/CE0Z via W6ORD
KC6DC via WB6LED
KH3AB via KB7MO
KX6PJ via KX6BU
SV0AT via AF4B

73's and Good DX

DICK VK3VU

REMINDER

The Ballarat Amateur Radio Group will be conducting a display at the BCAE open day on August 9th 1981 at the Mt Helen campus. Please find the time to come along and support us. If you have anything you feel may be of interest to the general public then let us know at the July meeting. The success of this display depends entirely on YOU.

FOR SALE

FTV 250 2 Mx transverter. Matches the FT101 range. Brand new, hardly used and complete with all fittings.

\$200.00

RINGO ANTENNA ARX2 Good condition

\$45.00

HY-GAIN 2mx YAGI Good condition 5 elements

\$25.00

ARCHER ANTENNA ROTATOR (STOLLE TYPE) with cable and indicator unit.

\$80.00

ARTHUR SOLOMAN VK3LJ

The Manse, 130 Ballarat Rd

Creswick. Tel 452031

WANTED TO BUY

EXTERNAL VFO TO SUIT UNIDEN 2020

Paul VK3BWC Tel 347234

FOR SALE

80m Receiver (3- 4.5 MHz) \$20. Geoff VK3NLZ Tel 321037

WANTED

NEWS AND ARTICLES FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER. IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT OR WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT A CHANGE BE MADE WITHIN THE CLUB THEN LET THE EDITOR KNOW. DO YOU WANT TO SELL? BUY? OR BORROW SOMETHING THEN ADVERTISE IN THE NEWSLETTER..... THE SERVICE IS FREE AND PUTS YOUR PRODUCT IN THE MARKET PLACE.

GET WITH THE ACTION ATTRACTION... THE BARG NEWSLETTER

Mr. EDITOR,

Due to personal commitments in the coming months, regretfully, I cannot continue with the printing and preparation of stencils for the "newsletter".

I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause the club, but I am unable to continue with this service.

Thank you contributors for your help over the past 2½ years by presenting your articles in a format that has made my job easy and the publication of "our" magazine a pleasure.

Thanks again,

Your Printer"

(Geoff VK3NLZ)

81/07 18